

The Registry Review

The newsletter of the
SC Central Cancer Registry

S U M M E R

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SCCCR Wins Gold Certification Award....*Again*

The South Carolina Central Cancer Registry has been awarded Gold Certification by the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR), this is the most recent of eight certification awards received. The SCCCR submitted population-based incidence data, cases diagnosed in 2004, for review by the NAACCR Certification Committee in December 2006. The review involves measuring levels of completeness, timeliness and quality of

the data. Based on these levels, registries can be awarded silver or gold certification.

To be awarded gold certification, registries must have at least 95% completeness of case ascertainment. The SCCCR achieved 99.7% completeness, and was awarded gold certification in all 9 categories of review. This award signifies the effort being made to achieve standards of data quality in South Caro-

lina. SCCCR data are used to advance the understanding of the burden of cancer. Therefore, the availability of high quality data is extremely important.

Maintaining this level of data quality would not be possible without the commitment of the SCCCR staff, cancer registrars throughout South Carolina. Thank you for your continued commitment.

NPCR Educational Opportunities for Cancer Registry Trainers

The National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) is making evident the importance of having knowledgeable, prepared, and up-to-date trainers in the local, state and regional cancer registry programs across the United States. The NPCR 'Train the Trainer' conference is to be held August 1-2, 2007 in Atlanta. This annual training provides uniform training and an active opportunity to discuss training issues with other trainers face-to-face.

Then, 'trained trainers' use the prepared educational materials

to bring the information to the cancer registrars statewide. The upcoming 2007 conference will provide instruction and educational materials relevant to data collection, with emphasis on pertinent data collection changes, as required by the various standard setting agencies

In addition, another educational opportunity given by NPCR, is the NPCR Education and Training Series (NETS), which was developed to benefit central cancer registry programs. The NETS program is a web confer-

encing education module that aids and instructs trainers in various topics. Some of the past topics covered included, Teaching the Adult Learner and Building Quality Presentations. The NETS program was developed as a result of responses to an Educational Needs Assessment completed by trainers in 2006.

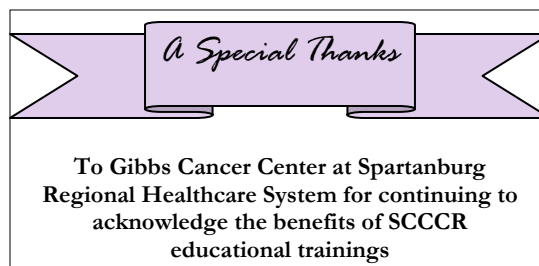
Upcoming 2007 Webinar Training Dates

Hospital Cancer Registry Webinar

Breast Cancer— Thursday, September 13, 2007

(9:00am - 1:00pm)

Location: Lexington Medical Center
Medical Park Auditorium
2720 Sunset Blvd
West Columbia, SC



This webinar will address cancer data collection for breast cancer, covering the anatomy, multiple primary and histology coding rules, collaborative staging and treatment data items.

SC Central Cancer Registry Staff Training Schedule:

July 19, 2007	Abstracting Prostate Cancer Incidence & Treatment
August 16, 2007	Abstracting Breast Cancer Incidence & Treatment
September 20, 2007	Statistical Techniques

Hospital Webinar Topics for 2007-2008:

- Melanoma
- GYN
- Registry Operations
- Treatment (Surgery, Radiation, Systemic)
- Thyroid & Larynx
- Data Quality & Data Use
- Upper GI Tract
- Other GI

Central Cancer Registry Topics for 2007-2008:

- Coding Pitfalls
- Record Linkage
- Thyroid
- Larynx
- Quality Assurance
- Lung
- Melanoma
- News Media & Cancer Surveillance
- Non-Hospital Source Data Collection
- Colon/Rectum
- Upper GI Tract
- Syntactic & Symantic Interoperability

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Improving Collaboration...this is a personal and professional goal of mine for the new Fiscal Year (starting July 1). It takes work, though. In the hustle and bustle and craziness of our professional lives, there is not much time for fostering new (or enhancing existing) relationships outside the ones required to do our jobs or manage our home life. But, it is critical... especially now! It's the only way to move forward, to maximize opportunities, and to just stay current in this ever-changing world. We can't do it all alone. We need each other.

Specific collaborations I plan to focus on are:

- 1) **CDC** - We are embarking on a new 5-year cycle of funding from CDC for the operation of the SCCCRC with a new CDC Project Officer assigned to us. Ryan Intlekofer, whom some of you may know (as he is a CTR and former President of NCRA), will be our liaison to the NPCR Program. I hope that Ryan will be able to visit us and get to know our staff to better understand the unique make-up of the SCCCRC in the coming year. The NPCR standards that we must attain have been redefined for the next 5-years. They stress electronic reporting, increased security of data transmission, as well as, assuring non-hospital data sources are acquired. In order to meet these standards, communication with all data reporters must be direct, clear, and succinct.
- 2) **SCCRA** - With the advent of a new slate of officers at the SCCRA, I have already begun to assist with planning upcoming conferences and offering resources through the SCCCRC to help in any way we can to promote high quality educational conferences for our statewide registrars.
- 3) **NAACCR** - I am beginning my second two-year term on the NAACCR Board of Directors. In this role, I can assure that South Carolina takes advantage of all the education and training opportunities available through NAACCR. We will again purchase the new Hospital Webinar Series for 2007-2008 so that all hospital registrars can receive the latest state-of-the-art cancer registry training. Once again through collaborative efforts, Jean Tooke, at Lexington Medical Center has offered to work with us to provide the venue for these Webinars. Thanks so much, Jean!
- 4) **Hospital Registrars** - That's you! We have already provided everyone with a more clearly defined policy for the SCCCRC Data Reporting Schedule via a letter to you. This was meant to provide clear expectations, with an explanation of how prompt consistent reporting is critical for all other registry operations to occur in a timely manner. We hope that it will help you better monitor your reporting to the SCCCRC. Then, if there is a problem, we can address it together.

One of the hopes for the new year is that we can take advantage of a wonderful NAACCR funded program called the Process Improvement Program (PIP). The purpose of the PIP is to enhance the relationships between hospital registries and the central registry. You can read more about it on the NAACCR Website at www.naacccr.org. An application must be submitted jointly by the SCCRA and the SCCCRC. There will be more on this in upcoming months.
- 5) **Fostering Friendships** - That's the personal aspect of the goal. I consider those in our registry community (and those I've come to know nationally) to be great friends that I am fortunate to have. If you stay in this field long enough (and most of us do) long-lasting friendships develop over the years. I look forward to more interpersonal exchanges with you all in the coming year. My respect for you and the jobs that you do continues to grow as time marches on.

Enjoy the Newsletter!



Oral/Pharyngeal Cancer Project: Coding Reliability and Validity Study

According to the South Carolina Central Cancer Registry (SCCCR), oral/pharyngeal cancer (OPCA) is the ninth most commonly occurring cancer in South Carolina. The primary site for cancers of the oral cavity and pharynx may be difficult to determine due to the complex anatomy of the head and neck, which consists of several different functional structures in close proximity. Therefore, it is important that these cases be coded and abstracted properly.

The SCCCR has participated in CDC-funded OPCA projects since 2001. In 2006, a Coding Reliability and Validity Study was conducted by the SCCCR to measure the quality of coding of OPCA cases in South Carolina. The study consisted of three phases related to the timing of planned local and national cancer registry training sessions on OPCA. Specifically, in May, a baseline oral/pharyngeal test case was sent to SC cancer registrars for coding. Registrars then attended SCCCR Advanced Registry Training on OPCA (and other sites). In June a second OPCA case was distributed for coding. In October, registrars attended the NAACCR Webinar consisting of four hours of training on coding and abstracting OPCA cases. Finally, a third test case was completed in November. Test case data items were grouped into seven categories: primary site, date of initial diagnosis, histology/grade, tumor sequence, laterality, collaborative staging, and first course treatment.

Overall results showed that coding did not consistently improve with additional training. The total scores for June were better than the May total scores; however, scores for November did not exceed June total scores. The first course of treatment data item did improve by November. Histology/grade item improved from May to June, but due to an error in the November case question, it could not be measured again.

Based on these results, the Oral Cancer Advisory Team will discuss and consider additional steps that need to be taken regarding registrar training for OPCA.

**Oral/Pharyngeal
Cancer is the
Ninth most
commonly
occurring cancer
in South Carolina**

SCCCR Word Search



O	O	A	R	E	C	N	A	C	I	N	C	R	A	W
S	R	Z	G	X	E	H	J	B	W	Q	D	C	S	J
B	J	A	R	Q	R	E	G	I	Y	R	Z	C	Y	E
Z	C	M	L	T	T	Z	Q	H	Y	V	M	A	W	Z
T	N	E	M	N	I	A	T	R	E	C	S	A	M	T
L	F	L	V	E	F	H	K	G	V	Q	A	N	S	R
P	F	Z	K	M	I	V	I	I	N	R	Q	A	S	A
G	C	E	M	E	C	L	J	S	C	I	L	E	W	I
O	E	J	W	V	A	Z	Z	C	T	B	D	E	L	N
L	J	S	R	O	T	H	S	M	R	O	B	O	O	I
D	R	T	C	R	I	L	Z	C	Q	I	L	Y	C	N
K	B	Q	I	P	O	C	C	N	N	U	I	O	V	G
G	S	R	T	M	N	C	E	A	Z	J	P	N	G	Z
H	R	E	G	I	S	T	R	A	R	S	A	X	I	Y
J	X	D	Z	V	S	Y	F	E	Q	B	P	Z	J	P

Search Terms

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| • ASCERTAINMENT | • NCRA |
| • CANCER | • NETS |
| • CERTIFICATION | • ORAL |
| • CODING | • REGISTRARS |
| • CTR | • SCCCR BLAST |
| • GOLD | • SCCRA |
| • HISTOLOGY | • TRAINING |
| • IMPROVEMENT | • WEBINAR |
| • NAACCR | |

SCCCR BLAST

You won't find the previous registry Q & A section included in the newsletter anymore. It's not that it wasn't important. A more timely and consistent method has been implemented to communicate answers to questions as well as other pertinent information for registry coding and abstracting rules.

The SCCCR BLAST is the new educational training tool provided as a service to you from the SCCCR. This email communication offers specific updates, clarifications, and Q & A's concerning coding rules and abstracting principles. All registry reference manuals utilized are cited. The BLAST is sent to all SC registrars at the beginning of each month.

Topics originate from questions generated from SCCCR quality control activities and from hospital registrars. Some also may stem from changes in standards that need to be communicated to everyone. Only the question and answer with reference sources are included; the person who submitted the questions is not shown. Send your questions and/or comments to Kathy Barnes, SCCCR Training Coordinator at barneskd@dhec.sc.gov.

Attention:

The SCCCR Reportable List for ICD-9 codes has changed for 2006 & 2007. Please refer to your SCCCR Blast for additional information on the updates.

Upcoming Events.....

July 24, 2007

NAACCR CTR Exam Readiness Webinar Series

Offers real-time interactive instruction with a live instructor(s) in a small group setting. For additional information visit www.naaccr.org

August 1-2, 2007

National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) Train the Trainer Conference

For all state trainers, providing instruction and educational material relevant to data collection with emphasis on pertinent data collection changes.

August 13-16, 2007

CDC Cancer Conference

Hyatt Regency
Atlanta, GA

August 29-31, 2007

SCCRA CTR Exam Prep Workshop

Hosted by Roper St. Francis Hospital
SC Central Cancer Registry—Charleston Office
Charleston, SC

September 10-12, 2007

NAACCR Tool Kit

Charleston, SC

September 19-21, 2007

SCCRA Fall Educational Conference

Hampton Inn & Suites

Questions regarding information found in this newsletter, or suggestions for future editions can be directed to Selena Summerson at summersl@dhec.sc.gov.

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<http://www.scdhec.gov/co/phsis/biostatistics/SCCCR/SCCCRmain.htm>



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